

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 181653

61

ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04

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DODE-00 NSC-05 OES-06 /108 R

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NEA/PAB:DARCHARD

PM/NPO:JMC GUINNES

S/P:JKALICKI (SUBS)

ERDA:IWILLIAMS NSC:DELLIOTT

ERDA:RSLAWSON DOD:JLANDAUER

IO/ST:LCAVANAUGH

CIA:SMONK S/S:PSEBASTIAN

L:RBETTAUER C:LFUERTH

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TO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 181653

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, BG

SUBJECT: BANGLADESH NUCLEAR PROGRAM AND NPT ADHERENCE

REF: (A) DACCA 3343; (B) DACCA 3109

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO NOTIFY FONOFF AND OTHER BDG
OFFICIALS AS APPROPRIATE THAT THE US WILL BE WILLING IN
PRINCIPLE (SUBJECT TO INTERNAL USG AUTHORIZATION) TO ENTER
INTO EXPLORATORY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BDG FOR AN AGREEMENT
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PAGE 02 STATE 181653

FOR COOPERATION WHICH WOULD AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF A TRIGA

RESEARCH REACTOR AND ASSOCIATED FUEL. EMBASSY SHOULD WARMLY WELCOME BDG INTEREST IN NPT ACCESSION, SAYING WE BELIEVE THAT ACCESSION WOULD MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO REGIONAL STABILITY.

2. DR. ANWAR HOSSAIN, MEMBER OF THE BANGLADESH ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, IN A CALL ON OES DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY KRATZER ON JULY 9, REITERATED INFORMATION CONTAINED EFTEL B, I.E., BANGLADESH IS WILLING AND ACTIVELY PURSUING PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSION TO THE NPT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, AND DESIRES TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN THE CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

3. WITH RESPECT TO THE NPT, HOSSAIN STATED THAT HE COULD NOT FORESEE ANY POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES WHICH WOULD PREVENT HIS GOVERNMENT FROM "SIGNING AND RATIFYING" (SIC, SEE PARA 6) PRIOR TO THE IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN BRAZIL, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 21, 1976, AND DEPOSITING INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION WITH THE US ON RETURN TRIP TO BANGLADESH. KRATZER SUGGESTED DEPOSITING INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION BEFORE IAEA GENERAL CONFERENCE SO THAT BANGLADESH COULD ATTEND CONFERENCE AS A FULL-FLEDGED PARTY TO THE TREATY.

4. DURING DISCUSSION OF AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION, KRATZER EXPLAINED US PROCEDURES REQUIRED IN NEGOTIATING AGREEMENT. HOSSAIN PROVIDED A COPY OF DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH KRATZER STATED WAS VERY BROAD AND SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY BE IN BDG INTEREST FOR THE AGREEMENT TO COVER THEIR IMMEDIATE NEEDS (I.E., THE RESEARCH REACTOR). A LIMITED AGREEMENT WOULD ENJOY ADVANTAGE OF SIMPLIFIED CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PROCEDURE FOR AGREEMENTS COVERING ONLY RESEARCH REACTORS BELOW FIVE MEGAWATTS THERMAL LEVEL. SUCH A SPECIFIC AGREEMENT WOULD NOT PRECLUDE COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE UNDER AN ADDITIONAL AGREEMENT WHEN BDG POWER REACTOR NEEDS ARE CLEARLY DEFINED. HOSSAIN AGREED AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE GUIDANCE. KRATZER EMPHASIZED HE WAS PROVIDING INFORMAL VIEWS AND THAT OFFICIAL US RESPONSE TO BDG PROPOSAL FOR RESEARCH COOPERATION WOULD BE PROVIDED THROUGH US EMBASSY IN DACCA, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 181653

TOGETHER WITH US DRAFT OF AGREEMENT, IF RESPONSE IS AFFIRMATIVE.

5. ASSUMING THAT FONOFF CONFIRMS WILLINGNESS TO BECOME NPT PARTY, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO REQUEST CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORIZATION TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS, THEN FORWARD A DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AS INDICATED IN PARA. 4 ABOVE. WILLINGNESS OF BDG TO BECOME NPT PARTY OF ITS OWN

VOLITION IS MOST WELCOME STEP, AND WE WOULD STRONGLY PREFER TO AVOID HAVING TO MAKE AN EXPLICIT LINKAGE BETWEEN NPT ADHERENCE AND NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION. HOWEVER, IF ASKED, YOU MAY INDICATE TO FONOFF THAT DECISION BY BDG TO BECOME NPT PARTY IS HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN US WILLINGNESS IN PRINCIPLE TO ENGAGE IN NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH BANGLADESH. BEGIN FYI: THE PROVISION OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN GENERAL ATOMICS AND BDG RESTRICTING ENRICHMENT OF FUEL TO BELOW 20 IS ALSO QUITE HELPFUL. WE ANTICIPATE THAT 20 ENRICHMENT RESTRICTION WILL BE A FEATURE OF US DRAFT OF AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION. ANY DRAFT AGREEMENT WOULD ALSO REQUIRE PROVISION FOR MUTUALLY AGREEABLE PHYSICAL SECURITY. END FYI.

6. WITH RESPECT TO INQUIRY PARA. 5 REFTEL A, PROCEDURES FOR ADHERING TO NPT ARE QUITE SIMPLE. SIGNATURE OF TREATY IS NOT NECESSARY (OR POSSIBLE SINCE TREATY WAS CLOSED TO FURTHER SIGNATORIES AS OF MARCH 5, 1970, THE DATE OF ITS ENTRY INTO FORCE). INSTEAD, STATE WISHING TO BECOME PARTY TO THE TREATY, FOLLOWING ITS OWN CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSION TO A TREATY, DEPOSITS INSTRUMENT OF ACCESSION WITH ONE OR MORE (PREFERABLY ALL) OF THREE DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENTS (US, UK, USSR). UNDER TERMS OF TREATY, THE ADHERING STATE, NOT LATER THAN THE DATE OF DEPOSIT OF ITS INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION, BEGINS NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY PLACING THAT COUNTRY'S NUCLEAR FACILITIES UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS. SUCH AN AGREEMENT MUST COME INTO FORCE WITHIN 18 MONTHS AFTER THE INITIATION OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. ROBINSON

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